(d) It is too early to indicate any time-limit by which the Tribunal and the Settlement Commission will be set up.

SEBI Report on Securities Scam

3765. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) year in which the SEBI was formed;

(b) whether Government have received any report/opinion from the SEBI about the recent securities scam;

(c) if so, when such a report was received; and

(d) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) was initially constituted by the Government by a resolution dated 12th April, 1988.

(b) No specific report/opinion has been received from SEBI in this regard.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार के संबंध में आंकड़े

3766. **श्री प्रमोद महाजन :** क्या **वित्त** मंत्री 28 जुलाई, 1992 को राज्य सभा में तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 282 के दिये गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और विदेशी ऋणों, विदेशी सहायता और अप्रवासी भारतीयों द्वारा जमा के रूप में मई, 1992 के अंत में विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार (5458 मिलियन डालर) के आंकड़े बताने की कृपा करेंगे ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर ठाकुर) : किसी विशेष समय पर भण्डारों की स्थिति, विदेशी क्षेत्र में सभी लेन देनों का निवल परिणाम है। इसलिए विदेशी ऋणों विदेशी सहायताओं और अनिवासी भारतीयों की जमा के संदर्भ में विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार-स्तर के ब्यौरे तैयार करना सम्भव नहीं है।

Guidelines for loans for purchase of vehicles

3767. DR ISHWAR CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the broad outlines for granting loan to operators by nationalised banks for the purchase of trucks and passenger vehicles;

(b) the number of trucks and buses financed separately by nationalised banks in each State, particularly in Kanpur city, during the period from 1985-86 and 1991-92;

(c) what are the reasons for decline, if any, in the number of trucks and busses financed; and

(d) steps taken or proposed to be taken to encourage trucks transport industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As per the guidelines of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) advances to small road transport operators owning a fleet of vehicles not exceeding six vehicles including the one proposed to be financed are eligible for inclusion under priority sector. These borrowers get bank finance at concessional terms relating to margin, security, rate of interest, etc. as under:

(i) *Margin*: For credit limits upto and inclusive of Rs. 25,000/- no margin is required. A margin of 15 to 25 per cent has been prescribed for credit limits exceeding Rs. 25,000.

(ii) *Security Norms*: For credit limits upto and inclusive of Rs. 25,000 hypothecation of the assets created out of the loan (i.e. vehicle) is sufficient. Banks have been advised not to ask for collateral security/third party guarantee for loans upto and inclusive of Rs 25,000. For credit limits in excess of Rs. 25,000 banks have to determine the security on merits of each case. In these cases collateral security by

way of immovable properties or third party guarantee may be asked by the banks only in cases where primary security (hypothecation of the vehicles) is inadequate or for other valid reasons and not as a matter of routine.

(iii) The current rates of interest applicable on bank loans to transporters are as under:

Term loans for transporters

	Owning upto two vehicles	Owning more than two vehicles
(i) Upto and inclusive of Rs. 7,500	11·5	11·5
(ii) Over Rs. 7,500 and upto Rs. 25,000	13·5	13·5
(iii) Over Rs. 25,000 and upto Rs. 2 lakhs	15·0	16·5
(iv) Over Rs. 2 lakhs	15·0 (Minimum)	19·0 (Minimum)

(b) and (c) The present data reporting system of banks does not generate information separately in respect of advances granted for purchase of trucks and buses for particular cities.

(d) Banks are providing financial assistance to the priority sector including the transport operators based on the viability of their proposals. The performance of banks for their priority sector advances is periodically reviewed by the Board of Directors of public sector banks as well as RBI and Government. RBI has also advised banks that all loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000 should be disposed of within a formight and those for over Rs. 25,000 within 8-9 weeks.

Guidelines for fixing interest rates in Banks

3768. DR. ISHWAR CHANDRA GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the guidelines, if any, laid down for fixing of rates of interest charged by nationalised and foreign banks for various types of loans for business and other purpposes;

(b) the rates of interest charged by these banks at present against loans sanctioned for different purposes;

(c) the rates of interest charged for various services rendered by these banks; and

(d) what steps are proposed to be taken to streamline the rates of interest and service charges by these banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) The structure of lending rates applicable to Scheduled Commercial banks as also to the Foreign banks is determined by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) taking into account a number of factors like the growth rate of the economy and its subsectors, the rate of inflation, the pace of monitory expansion, the cost of raising resources by banks, the profitability of banks, etc. Keeping in view the above factors, RBI revises the lending rate structure from time to time. The position was reviewed in September, 1990 and as a result of this, the lending rate structure of commercial banks was rationalised and revised with effect from 22nd September, 1990. The present rates of interest on advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks (including Foreign Banks) effective from April 22,